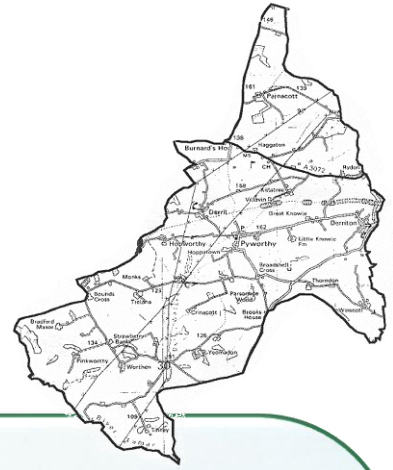


PYWORTHY POST



Above: Show with a View, held in mid-June. The first Pyworthy Country Show organised in aid of Parkinson's Devon. Photo: courtesy of Dr. Reg Godwin at Wild Stage Photography.

What's in your paper this month?

Village Show programmes on sale now!

Events for July.

Lots of interesting articles for you to enjoy.

Turn the page and come inside.....



Read online at:

<http://www.bit.ly/postpy> or

<https://pyworthy-parish.co.uk/>

and view the paper in full colour.

JULY 2026
Issue number 353



Pyworthy Village Show

CELEBRATING
10
YEARS

**for all the
family....**

Saturday 5th September

**Doors open from 1.30pm.
Refreshments available.**



**Buy your programmes
from:**

**Marie Heard at:
9 Derriton Road.
Pyworthy.**

**Anita Burnard at:
Anberlea, Pyworthy or
Wendy Ward at:
“Wordona” Derril.**

Still only..... 50p

Welcome to the JULY EDITION



By Marion Ravn

We're at the time of the year when we will be spending memorable times with members of our family, especially our grandchildren. Happy days!

With children in mind, Amanda Witts is running a free Children's Craft and Sensory session, in the Village Hall on the 4th July. See page 43 for more details.

This month the Ukulele Band will be entertaining us on the 5th July, all proceeds made on the evening, will be donated to the Cornwall Air Ambulance. Our Church has its Annual Patronal Festival, which will take place on the 18th & 19th July. This is always a popular event. Our Rural Art Group will be staging an exhibition of their artwork, plus there will also be vintage memorabilia and amazing floral displays. A date for your diary!

Liffy Lowes has given me an update on her Abseiling Challenge that took place on the 6th May. A final total of money raised towards Church repairs was **£2008**. Well done to Liffy, that really took a lot of guts, not a challenge for the faint hearted.

We have some interesting articles and group reports for you to enjoy again this month. Thank you to all those who have contributed.

Looking further ahead there are details of the scarecrow trail in August, which you might like to take part in, and the Annual Village Show. Show programmes go on sale 1st July, see page 2 for collection points.

Please keep the news & reports coming in. Email: pyworthy@post.com

Email address: pyworthy@post.com Telephone number: 01409 478294 Page 3

Page Index:

2. Pyworthy Annual Village show poster
3. Editors welcome & page Index
- 4/5. Church News & Church service information
- 6/7. Village Hall news, events and clubs' info
8. July Birthdays
9. Gill's Golden Gang & Village Hall Coffee Mornings
- 10/13. My Electrical Industry Recollections by Mike Godfrey – the final chapter
- 13/14. St. Peter's Fair Week & Evelyn's Walks Group report
- 15/18. Covid Diary
18. Holsworthy History Group news
19. Sponsor's page & June Poser quiz answers
- 20/21. Pyworthy People
21. Rural Art Club
22. Men's Skittles Team & sponsor's page
- 23/25. Gardening with Mike Godfrey
26. Devon CPRE latest solar report
27. Sponsor & Church Gift Aid form
28. Holsworthy Library – what's on in July
29. Sponsor's page
30. Village Hall – Village get-together
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32. The Molesworth & Family Announcements
33. Sponsor & July Poser Quiz
34. Trigon Farm – courses & Line dancing classes
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37. Banking Hub information & Sunrise & sunset
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39. Computer News
40. Bude Farmer Market, Holsworthy Food Bank
41. Pyworthy Scarecrow Trail
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43. Free Children's Craft and Sensory session
- 44/45. Holsworthy Walk & Talk group
46. July anniversaries & Hedgehog message
47. John Sanders Park Trust draw 2026, **RESULTS**
48. Creative Crafts Club & Potters Fish n Things
49. Business contact's page
50. Sponsor's page
51. Save your stamps for Hedgehogs & Sponsor's page
52. Sponsor's page
53. Pyworthy Parish Council meeting summary & Village Hall cleaning -thank you message
- 54/57. July Nature Notes series
58. Dates for your Diary
59. Pyworthy Country Show photos & Hartland Book Fair
60. Sponsor's page.





By Liffy Lowes on behalf of St. Swithun's Church

Today is a wonderful day and I hope to make the best of it this afternoon in the garden. I fear it may be too hot to sit outside for too long! Strange weather we are having at the moment, it just doesn't want to settle down. Still, nothing we can do about it.

As many of you know, I did my abseil up at Hartland back at the beginning of May. I look on it as an achievement; once I had done the abseil bit, I realised I had to get back up to the top. I managed that eventually; I think I actually enjoyed that bit more than the abseil! What many of you may not know is the amount I raised for church clock and tower funds – I was truly amazed at the total of £2008. When I first added it up I really thought I'd made a mistake in my addition! But I hadn't! I am so very grateful to all those who so generously sponsored me, it really got to the stage where I couldn't back out of doing it even though several people said they'd sponsored me for not doing it! But thank you, all of you.

The object of my sponsored abseil was to raise money towards much needed restoration and repair work on much of the church. The rain we had back in January/February showed up a lot of work to be done; I imagine the problems had already been there, it just took the weather to highlight them. We hope to get some of the

the work started on the tower/clock in the fairly near future, it will take some time but it's a start. You will be kept up to date on how the work is going.

In the middle of the month we hold our annual Gift Day, this year the dates are Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th the two days nearest St Swithun's Day, our patron saint. Woe betide if it rains on the 15th, we can expect it for 40 days thereafter! There will be a Flower Festival on the subject of "Vintage", paintings by our local Art Group, always well worth looking at, and this year there will be a display of Photographs and Memorabilia of Pyworthy. If you have any old tools, photos, and utensils which you are prepared to lend us for the weekend, we would be very grateful for this. I think I can manage some fairly old photos, but I'm sure there are many of you out there who have some old and very interesting memorabilia. There will also be refreshments available to all. There is no entry fee, but donations are always very welcome. All churches need a lot of money to simply keep going, and it's almost impossible to raise enough money through collections at Sunday services. So, we do rely heavily on the weekend to help us on the way. We look forward to seeing you over the weekend. If you are able to gift aid and wish to do so, please fill out the form in this month's Pyworthy Post, it will allow us to receive 5% more in your gift, without costing you anything!

On June 23rd Janet and I will be going to Bradworthy to officially become your two Churchwardens. I have forgotten how long I have been churchwarden, but this is Janet's first, and probably not

Continued on page 5....

St. Swithun's News continued from page 4..

her last! Our Archdeacon will be there, and we have to answer several questions put to us, in a way, it's a little bit like a baptism. So, wish us well, we always hope to do our very best for St Swithun's and for the parish.

Always remember that we live in a wonderful part of the world, but that in many parts of the world this is not so. Please pray for them.

United Benefice of Holsworthy

Rector: Revd Alison Hardy, Churchwarden: Liffy Lowes & Janet Grant

Benefice Services for JULY

<http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/>



Worship and Prayer in the Holsworthy Benefice – JULY 2026

Date	Bridgerule	Holsworthy	Pyworthy	Hollacombe
Sunday 5 th July	11.00am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Family Service	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th July	11.00am Morning Prayer	11.00am Open Air Service in The Square	9.30am Sung Eucharist	3.00pm Evensong
Sunday 19 th July		11.00am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Sung Eucharist with Songs of Praise	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th July	11.00am All Age Sung Eucharist	11.00am at the Church of St. Peter & St. Paul - Café style service.	9.30am Morning Prayer	-
	9.30am – Pancrasweek – All Age Service			
	11.00am - Benefice service at Holsworthy Church			

Church Bookings

To book a Wedding, a Christening, or a Funeral, or for anything else, please contact: Revd Alison Hardy, email: reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com Tel: 07780295752.

Benefice administrator:

Libbi York – email: Holsworthybenefice@icloud.com Tel: 07717750198.



**St. Swithun's Church,
Gift Aid Donation
form is on page 27.**

Pyworthy Village Hall News

Martin Brennan, Chairman

Update on our Flat Roof Appeal

To date, we have received a total of **£11,020.00**, including **£5,000 from the Devon Community Foundation, (Thorne Wind Farm Solar Fund) £5,000 from our Parish Council, and £20 from a local parishioner**, for which we are truly very grateful.

As mentioned previously, the total cost of the project is in the region of **£25,000**, so we still have some way to go. Our aim is to raise a minimum of **£5,000 locally**, and achieving this figure will enormously help us in securing further match funding from other sources.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us so far—it is very much appreciated.

If you would like to donate toward a new flat roof for the Village Hall, you can do so via:

HSBC: - Pyworthy Village Hall Committee

Sort Code 40-24-25

Account No- 41018248

Alternatively, for further details, please contact **Martin on 01409 691096.**

It goes without saying your continued support of the Village Hall — is really very much appreciated.

See page 38 for easyfundraising. How you can help our Village Hall, while you shop online.



Village Get-Together Sunday 5th July

At the Village Hall
Everyone is warmly welcome!

Enjoy **coffee, tea, and cake** whilst listening to the wonderful music of the
🎵 *All@Sea Ukulele Band* 🎵

Free entry

Donations are welcome in support of

Cornwall Air Ambulance

See page 30 For further Details.



Potters Fish n Things

Just to let you all know that Olly will be at the Hall on the **Third WEDNESDAY of each month this year.** This month's visit will be **Wednesday 15th July.**

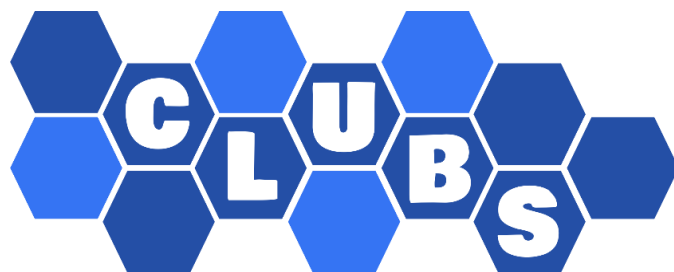
For further details see page 48.

Dates for your Diary



Village Hall Meeting
Wednesday 30th July,
starting at 7.30.

Everybody welcome.



What's on at the Pyworthy Village Hall.....

Village Hall Social Club Evenings!



This month our Social Evenings
are:

Fridays 3rd, 17th & 31st July.

Don't forget to come along and join us for Beer or whatever takes your fancy and perhaps have a

go at our '**Play Your Cards Right**' game on the 3rd July – the jackpot is now up to **£162!**

Who Knows it could Be your Lucky Night!!

**Doors/Bar Opens
at 7pm until late.**

**Everybody is welcome, come
along and have a good time.**



Mondays: Line Dancing Club:

Complete Beginners:

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Beginners/Improvers,

6.30pm – 7.30pm

Intermediate, 7.30pm -9.30pm.

Tuesdays: the Rural Art Group, will start back on the **8th September.**

Our Art Exhibition is on the 18th & 19th July, in the Church.

Tuesdays: Line Dancing Club, **Intermediate, 7.30pm -9.30pm.**

Tuesday evenings: Men's Skittles Team. Playing at home & away.

Wednesdays: Beginners Ballroom dancing & Latin class, including Sequence dancing 7.30pm – 9.00pm.

Thursdays: Gill's Golden Gang, 10.00am – 11.00am.

Thursdays: Coffee Mornings –
1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month.
Starting at 11.10am.
Everybody welcome!

(No coffee mornings in August.)

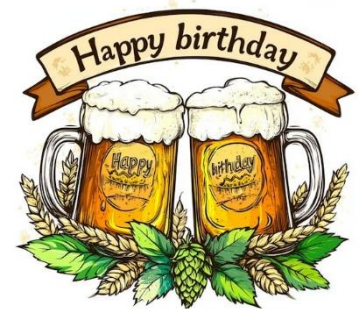
Thursdays: Creative Craft Club –
2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month,
from 2.30pm until 4.30pm.

WHO'S CELEBRATING THIS MONTH?

BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 1st Lee Giles
- 2nd Phil Buse
- 3rd Roy Jones, Anthony O'Farrell
- 4th Rhannon & Kieran Langman
- 5th Daniel Ward
- 6th Carl Bowden
- 7th Diane Soall
- 8th Bridget Brown, Catherine Moore
- 9th Paul Morrell
- 12th Julia Parsons, Linda Godfrey
- 13th Maisie Gifford
- 16th Sheila Greenaway
- 17th Polly Symons
- 18th Dave Whitaker
- 19th Brian Basson
- 21st Tess Owen
- 22nd Angela Martin, Graham Norman
- 23rd Daniel Martin, Harvey Marsh
- 25th Mark Burnard
- 26th Edward Richardson
- 29th Joyce Peacock
- 30th Abby Palmer
- 31st Keith Littlejohns, Rob Moores



Community Birthday list

New Residents of Pyworthy Parish, please feel welcome to add your birthdays to our community list.

Special announcements are on page 32 this month.



**DOGS TO BE
KEPT ON A LEAD**



**PLEASE
NO FOULING**

Domestic Abuse Helpline



Phone:



0808 2000247 for free & confidential advice.

More information available online.

If in danger phone: 999

Join

Gill's Golden Gang

Strength & Balance Exercise Class

for the over 55's!

Held at:

REMINDER:
Pyworthy - no
meetings on the
13th & 27th August.

Thursdays.

Pyworthy Village Hall

10.00am to 11.00am.

Halwill Baptist Chapel Hall

12.45pm to 1.45pm.

**Contact Gill Aston on: 07854677784
for more information.**

Coffee Morning



VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING GROUP

**Come along and join us at
11.10am on the 1st & 3rd
Thursdays each month.**

**Meet new friends, enjoy a coffee,
and have a good chat.**

For more information phone:

Brenda on: 01409 253015 or

Marie on: 01409 254924.

Now held in the main Village Hall.



**NEW MEMBERS ARE
VERY WELCOME!**

My Electricity Industry Recollections

Episode 18

The 1987 Storm

By Mike Godfrey



Above: Littlebrook Power D station at full load on a snowy winter's day

When I transferred from Kingsnorth to Littlebrook D in 1979 I was appointed as Assistant Electrical Engineer (1st Engineer grade) and specifically nominated to be primarily responsible for the Main Turbo Generators and their associated auxiliary and support plant, the connections to the Grid via 800,000kw transformers, the site 11,000 volt and 415v electrical networks and all associated switchgear and Control Room operational facilities. It was my remit to become the Station's "fountain of knowledge" on all this apparatus and equipment. I was primarily responsible for the maintenance and fault rectification on this wide-ranging plant, which was a formidable task. Fortunately, unlike Kingsnorth the plant behaved itself for the majority of the time, although it was not without its challenges. In addition to being required to have a detailed knowledge of the major plant, I was expected to know enough about the other site plant,

that I was not directly responsible for. This aspect was to be challenged in October 1987 when I was called upon to sort out the aftermath of the Storm which struck the South East on the night of the 15th to 16th of October. All Power Stations in the South East lost their Grid connections and were forced to shut down. I was sleeping soundly through the storm until I was called at about 2 o'clock in the morning by the night shift manager, saying in a very panicky tone "we've lost everything, we are totally blacked out and running on emergency batteries, which are discharging fast". My response in my semi-torpid state was "what the hell are you talking about". Eventually I woke up and he calmed down and I realised this could be serious. I got up and looked out the front door and was met by a scene of utter devastation. I thought how am I going to get to work? I "borrowed" my sons Landrover, as I wouldn't have got there without it. Due to fallen trees, overturned lorries and very strong winds it took me 1.5 hours to get to work instead of the normal 30 minutes, encountering many near misses and fearing that the doors were about to be torn off the Landrover or indeed that I would be blown over at any moment.

I eventually **continued on page 11...**

The 1987 Storm continued from page 10...

got to Littlebrook and started to walk in; the wind was so strong that I was blown off my feet and carried along by the wind only to be deposited unceremoniously on my back side in the middle of the road with corrugated sheets blowing passed me at terrific speeds. I quickly regained my composure and made a dash for the main building entrance to be greeted by the night shift manager, who was clearly in a state of absolute panic. My response to him was to advise him to calm down; panicking was not going to solve the considerable problems that lay before us. To make matters worse the emergency generators were not in my areas of responsibility or for that matter expertise. I was hoping that the engineer responsible would turn up but he didn't, so it was down to me. Unbelievable the three units at Littlebrook had just been ordered off by National Grid Control Centre (they too had been advised wrongly about the impending storm) and a short while later Power Stations around the South and East coast started to lose their Grid connections. Fawley and Dungeness followed swiftly by the Isle of Grain and Kingsnorth tripped off followed swiftly afterwards by the Grid connection between Essex and Kent, which I believe was opened deliberately to save the rest of the Grid system from collapse. With that our emergency 35,000kw Gas Turbines Generators cut in, as they were programmed to do, trying to support a potential load of probably over 6,000,000kw but they only had a full load capability of 105,000kw. The vast



Above: the million-horsepower turbine and 750,000kw generator

mismatch caused the control systems to wind way passed their normal control span before the overload protection tripped all three machines, leaving the Station in darkness apart from a scattering of emergency lights. It also blackout all the control screens. We also lost the power to the barring gear on each machine, which keeps the main turbo generator shaft turning slowly to prevent the shaft seizing. We only had an hour or so to get power to these otherwise these turbo generators would be out of action for many weeks while we waited for the shaft to cool down and straighten out. Ironically if Grid Control had not been misinformed about the weather and our three main generators had been kept on we may have been able to prevent the total blackout of the south east and parts of London.

So, there I was with an unfamiliar control system, which had tripped in an abnormal way, trying to understand what had gone wrong, reading a poor contrast drawing with a shift man illuminating the drawing and the control cabinet with his torch, while all around me there was a general state of panic. I just had to shut out

continued on page 12...

The 1987 Storm continued from page 11...

all this and the pressure that went with it and concentrate my mind on issues in front of me. The pressure was compounded by the state of emergency battery power, which was dwindling fast. I worked my way through the problems in a methodical way using electrical engineering principles and after about 30 minutes I had found and rectified the problems, even though I had never worked on this particular equipment – nothing short of a miracle. I selected the controls to start the Gas Turbine to run up to Sync-idle because we had no Grid to connect to, I had to modify things a bit so it would produce a stable 11,000-volt output. The Gas Turbine start as the Industrial Olympus Aero started to spin up sync-idle speed. It was a wonderful sound and a great relief to me. At that point we could close the main circuit breaker and make the 11,000 and the 415-volt Power Station electrical distribution systems live and start supplying the important Power Station loads. Suddenly, the Power Station lit up and vital machinery including the Barring Gear motors were running just in time to stop the turbo generator shafts from seizing. It was definitely a moment in time. However, there was no time to relax or reflect, we had to get the main machine running. At that point I realised that the boiler water feed pump motor would need the output of two Gas Turbine Generators. Next challenge was to pair to machines together; these machines had never been connected together when isolated from the Grid. I had to give it quite a

bit of thought and I decided that I would have to make adjustments to various parameters involving the voltage and governor controls to prevent horrendous circulating currents and to prevent the two machines from becoming unstable. That done I was confident that the two machines could supply the initial starting current of 2500 Amps at 11,000 volts. The motor started without any more issues and shortly after Unit 1 was run up to 3000rpm and was connected to the Grid connection between Kent and Essex, enabling the Grid system to be re-energised in Kent as more Generators became available. I left home at about 2.00 am and returned home at around 9.00 am the following day, having sorted out many other issues resulting from the Station being blacked out and having been sustained by one cheese sandwich and endless cups of coffee.

Shortly after this major event, I was appointed as the Electrical Engineer for the whole site and a year later I was again promoted to be the Chief Engineer for the site encompassing not only the Electrical work but all engineering work including the Mechanical and Instrument and Control Departments. I was now responsible for virtually everything that went on engineering wise. It was a pretty pressurised job, and I truly had to keep my finger on the pulse all the time 24/7, with plant worth about £6 billion in today's money and a £10 million a day loss for each Unit that was offline on breakdown. During this period, I also gained my full membership to the Institute of Electrical **continued on page 13...**

The 1987 Storm continued from page 12...

Engineers, following a rather intense and in-depth interview and discussion at Savoy Place in London with two eminent Professors of Electrical Engineering. As a result of the interview and my track record in Electrical Engineering I was also appointed as a Chartered Engineer, enabling me to put CEng MIEE proudly after my name.

Next time I change my role following the privatisation of the Electricity Industry.



Above: typical emergency gas turbine generator arrangement



On behalf of everybody, I'd like to thank Mike for allowing us to share his experiences in the electrical industry over the past 18 months. He obviously had a very rewarding and exciting career in the industry. I hope that you have enjoyed the series.

Holsworthy's St. Peter's Fair Week is: 4th – 12th July

Holsworthy's historic St Peter's Fair runs from Saturday the 4th July until Sunday the 12th July 2026. The week features traditional events like the Court Leet on Tuesday the 7th July, and Fair Day on Wednesday the 8th July, which highlights the Charter reading, the reveal of the Pretty Maid, and the town funfair. Live music in The Square, Wednesday evening from 7.30pm (90-minute performance). There will be a Tractor Run setting off from The Square at 11am on Sunday 5th July. More information can be found on the Holsworthy Town Council website & on Facebook.

Evelyn's Walks

By Evelyn Sharman, Group Organiser



Above: members of Evelyn's Walks group enjoying a walk in the Tetcott area.



Read Evelyn's full report on page 14.....

Evelyn's Walks Update

By Evelyn Sharman,
Group Organiser



On Monday 8th June, we met in the car park at Tetcott Village Hall (Arscott Hall). We noticed the sign that advised us that it's a designated landing site for the Air Ambulance & as such there are landing lights to assist them in finding their way. It's reassuring as Tetcott is quite a distance from the nearest main road (A388) & the lanes are VERY pot-holey. Since the heat wave in May, we have had day after day of rain & I was conscious that it would potentially be quite wet underfoot down by the river. It's unusual but I decided to do a "there & back walk" staying on tarmac which would be an easier walk over a distance of four miles. We turned left out of the car park which took us down a steep hill. I wondered whether anyone realised the significance of the sign indicating a 12% incline knowing that we would be coming back up the hill later. Someone pointed out that the little road bridge had been built in 1931. Prior to that, the route was probably along the track through the trees on our left. When we reached the sign at what used to be the smithy, we followed the lane towards Luffincott Barton. It's actually the drive to the property & the owners must be pleased that they don't have to take their recycling to the end of the drive for collection on a Monday! Along the way, one of our group pointed out where the Rectory once stood until it burnt to the ground in 1911. Apparently, the Rev. Thomas Ward Brown took up the appointment as

If you would like further information, you are welcome to contact me.

Evelyn Sharman Tel: 01409 259 848

Email:

evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

Rector at the turn of the 20th century. A local Historian wrote in 2015 that he had only slept in the Rectory for a couple of nights before he had a fright one night & decided to take lodgings in Clawton, never returning to the cottage. News of a ghostly presence spread & apparently people used to stay the night in the Rectory in the hope of coming face to face with a ghost. It was claimed to be the ghost of the previous Rector, Rev. Frank Parker, who had died in 1883. He was Rector at Luffincott for 45 years. It was said that he had been buried very deep in an attempt to prevent him from reappearing. Apparently, he had become quite eccentric & before his death, he had declared that he would reappear. When we visited the Church of St. James, we found his headstone. The Church is a Grade 1 listed building & maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. It is well worth a visit in order to admire its simplicity but also its beautiful barrel vaulted roof, a 14th century font & beautiful stained glass windows. From the Church, we retraced our steps back towards the Village Hall car park with much to talk about. Saying that, we needed to conserve our breath whilst plodding up that 12% incline!!

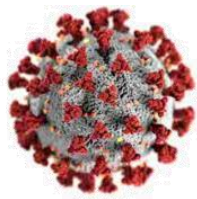
The next walk will be on Monday 13th July. We'll be setting off from the Village Hall car park in Chilsworthy at 10am.

If you would like any information, you are welcome to contact me.

Episode 9

My COVID Diaries

By Mark Marriott



A couple enjoying the beach after their vaccination

In episode 8 I joined Dorset Healthcare and soon found myself in charge of setting up the Dorset mass vaccination centre. This time, we open the centre, but does it signify the start of the end? The second lockdown ended on 2 December 2020, and the Government introduced a tier system in an attempt to manage regional lockdowns and Boris promised Christmas would be open, but in the end a new COVID-19 variant meant only Christmas day was open allowing 3 households to meet indoors. Then on 6 January 2021 we were in full lockdown again, but all this meant very little to the team working in the Bournemouth International Centre (or the BIC), we had a few days off over Christmas and continued to work in masks and gloves regardless of the lockdown status.

By the 18th of January the BIC was ready for the public, but first we had to vaccinate taxi drivers, bus drivers and carers who had been nominated by the council to help bring people to the centre. At midday we open the doors to everyone aged 80 and over and very soon the centre was full of elderly people chatting away and glad to see

the light at the end of the tunnel. It was a cold and crisp day outside and some of the staff had taken blankets out to the elderly people who had been through the centre and took the opportunity to sit outside and look at the sea for the first time in over a year. These people had lived through the war and never before been told to sit inside for a year and now after visiting the vaccination centre they could come outside and finally start to live again. That evening when the team had finished vaccinating at 8:00 PM we started a daily debrief reviewing the number of vaccinations we delivered that day and any incidents that we needed to put right by tomorrow. At the first debrief I told the team what I'd seen outside on the promenade and said to them this is the first time these people have had hope or been outside for a year and you did that, you have started them on the road to the end of the pandemic and should be proud. It was to be the first of many debriefs with a poignant message to the team. The clinical process of vaccinating so many people was convoluted to say the least: we were administering thousands and thousands of vaccinations that should have been prescribed but of course we had no time and not enough prescribers to do that, so the vaccine was delivered under a national protocol. The protocol was extremely important, and it described who should be vaccinated and by whom under very strict clinical supervision and it meant that staff other than nurses could vaccinate and any nurse-led clinic could dispense without the need to prescribe.

Continued on page 16...

My COVID Diaries continued from page 15.....

The problem is the protocol quite often didn't align with real life and this soon became an issue in the second wave of vaccinations which included NHS staff as well as patients over 75. Some trainee staff we're only 17 and the protocol said that as long as they were to be 18 by April they could receive a vaccine but both vaccinations available to us were only authorised for 18 years and over so despite the government saying we can vaccinate a 17-year-old staff member Astra Zeneca said we couldn't. Issues like this were quickly fed up through the network straight back to NHS England and were typically resolved in a day but it meant that thousands of changes to the protocol and to the procedures were being published every week as issues were being identified up and down the country as hundreds and thousands of people were being vaccinated. This led to a never-ending programme of change in the BIC which extended our days quite often to midnight.

The daily changes to the protocol forced us to hold daily improvement meetings to make sure we could keep up with all the changes being identified on the floor or being pushed down from NHS England. So, at 4:00 PM every day the centre leadership team held a meeting to discuss all of the issues from that day and produced a plan to implement change within 24 hours to make sure we could keep on top of it all. This pace of management was going on alongside the clinical pace inside the centre vaccinating thousands of people and outside the

the centre managing queues of hundreds of people. The work rate was relentless 12 hours a day seven days a week, but everybody involved understood that they were part of history, and no one complained.

It was inevitable with that many elderly people attending at once that we would expect medical emergencies at times, but what we didn't expect was to be diagnosing frailty conditions like skin sores, untreated diabetes, injuries from old falls and a whole range of medical conditions the GPs would normally take care of. But this group of people had been scared to step out of the door, they'd been told that even when lockdown was lifted that people at risk of infection or those who are elderly should still not leave their home and many had accepted this to mean not even to see their GP. It was heartbreaking to see so many people in need of so much care that was so easy to give and was never unavailable to them but they felt they couldn't access it, so we set up an ambulance station outside the BIC with two ambulances on duty at any time with paramedics and an ambulance service doctor. We weren't the only centre to be doing this and some that were attached to GP centres had a direct referral route to the GP next door, others had A&E staff the local hospital and some brought in community nursing teams from the local Community Trust. By the time the vaccination cohort opened to the over 70s we had vaccinated 97% of the over 75 population in Dorset and had effectively health screened all of them, kick starting the NHS into COVID recovery. This was happening all over the **continued on page 17...**

My COVID Diaries continued from page 16.....

country and NHS England soon realised that the vaccination service had an unprecedented outreach to the public and would start trying to piggyback other services into the vaccination centres later on in the programme.

As I said the protocol was very prescriptive and very restrictive, the government plan was to sequentially open cohorts of patients by age group and clinical vulnerability as the vaccination programme went on. Cohort one was everyone over 80 and chemotherapy patients; cohort 2 was everyone over 75, frontline health workers and people with chronic respiratory conditions; cohort 3 was everyone over 70 and so on down to cohort 9. So if you were 35 with no particular health risk there was no telling when you might be eligible for a vaccine which left other public services like police and fire very concerned that they would still have to deal with the public and not be vaccinated so they made representations to the government to be included as a specific cohort. The government didn't want to start at tsunami of requests for particular workers to qualify for a vaccine because before you knew it supermarket staff, teachers, librarians, petrol station attendants, just about everyone would start making claims for the need to be vaccinated; so they refused. It was stated that only those members working directly with the vaccination programme or other health services would qualify for a vaccine under cohort 2. We were

quickly called by the Dorset chief of police and head of the fire service asking if we needed any help at the vaccination centre, and because we knew it was the back door to get emergency services vaccinated we ended up with a daily police patrol and a fire engine visit. We didn't see the same person twice in either the police or fire service teams for three months and in that time we managed to vaccinate 750 policemen and 600 firemen under the guise of "frontline health workers", around 50% of the Dorset emergency services staff, for which we were officially thanked by both the police and fire service chiefs. One of my favourite things to do during the hectic days was stand by the door and get live feedback from people queuing for their vaccine. I've already talked about the elderly people coming out for the first time in a year and they would be practically bubbling when they arrived at the door chatting with old friends and people they didn't know without a care in the world. One patient grabbed me on a Saturday night and declared that she hadn't been out in the BIC on a Saturday for 40 years and would I like to dance, the atmosphere was so joyous and full of relief you could just drink it in. We had golf buggies from the local municipal golf course to ferry people from the bus stop to the door, there was a coffee van to keep the spirits up in the queue, we'd been donated hundreds of umbrellas to keep people dry in the rain and even goodie bags from local charities to pick up after having had a vaccination, It was like a party every day and seeing **Continued on page 18...**

My COVID Diaries continued from page 17.....

nothing but joy in people's faces really made the team proud and made the 12 hour days feel a lot shorter than they were.

There were so many fantastic characters across the whole team: in the clinical team, the volunteers, the BIC staff and the visiting emergency services teams. One person stood out in particular and that was "Big Nige";

the ambulance service had lent us their vaccinator to be used wherever we needed him. Nige was an advanced paramedic, a prescriber, a vaccinator, a member of the Hazardous Area Response Team and a mental health first aider; in short, he was a one-man walking emergency response team, and he was very big! At 6 feet 4 and 22 stone.

More about Big Nige & my move to running the whole programme for Dorset, next month.

Holsworthy History Society



The Holsworthy History Society met on Thursday 11th June and David Kendrick gave a talk on Nelson Mandela. He spoke about his early years as a young boy when his job was to herd animals, then went on to his school and college days and to his opening the first black lawyer's firm in Johannesburg with his friend Oliver Tambo. From there Nelson became a terrorist and was sentenced to life in prison and served 27 years, the last 17 on Robben Island. On his release he emerged himself in politics and became the first black president of South Africa.

In his lifetime Mandela was a student, a terrorist, a prisoner and a great statesman. He was also a humble, unassuming man who didn't hold grudges. When he was released from prison after 27 years he said, "As I walked out of the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison." This was a brilliant talk which gave us a fascinating insight into the life of Nelson Mandela.

The Society will next meet at 7.00pm on Thursday 16th July in the Manor Suite of the Holsworthy Memorial Hall when Simon Dell will give a talk on 'Sermons in Stone'.

All are welcome to join us.

All are welcome, membership for the year is £25 payable by either cash, cheque or BACS (preferable) or £5 for visitors.

For more information about the History Society contact:

holsworthyhistorysociety@gmail.com

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JUNE'S PYWORTHY POSER QUIZ

ANSWERS:

1. Corona Virus Disease 2019.
2. The first Census in Britain showing a population totalling 8,872,000. Now approaching 70,000,000!
3. Barclays Bank.
4. The Wren. (very small and secretive).
5. A Trout.
6. Refused because it fell on a Sunday, against his religious convictions.
7. London & Paris.
8. 1900.
9. (Flat) Horse Racing Trainer.
10. Seb Coe.



**How did you do? Why not try this month's quiz on page 33.
Good luck from your Pyworthy Pilgrim.**



Avril Glessing

Name: Avril Glessing

Age: 48

Occupation: Proprietor of Avril's Grooming Service in Derril, Qualified Veterinary Nurse and sheep farmer (Riverside LLeys). First job on leaving school: working in a kennels in Hatherleigh then as a kennel maid in Lifton after which Avril joined a veterinary practise in Bodmin and later Penbode Vets, Holsworthy. Her skills with clippers led to establishing a part-time, mobile, grooming business in 2004 that continued until 2015 when her permanent business, offering a range of services including grooming dogs (up to seven a day), cats & small pets, was launched.

Place of Birth: Plymouth Hospital. Born into a farming family in Halwill Junction.

What is the best thing about Pyworthy?

The community. There is nothing better really. I love where we live.

What one thing would you change about Pyworthy and why?

I would like to go back ten years and have a village school again.

Describe yourself in 3 words:

Sociable, conscientious, hard-working.

How do you like to spend your free time?

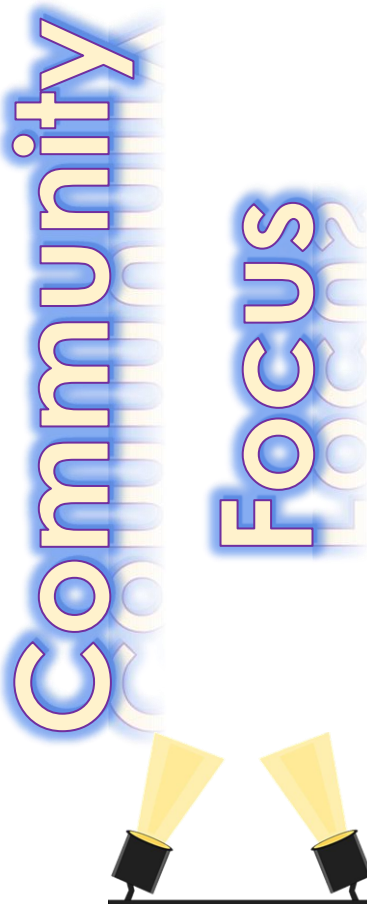
Riding my horse and spending time with my dogs and family.

What one thing have you always wanted to do, try or learn?

My biggest regret is not having seen much of the world. I would like to travel. I have always wanted to go to Italy.

If you could meet anyone living or dead who would it be?

Prince William; he is an interesting person.



Thanks go to Bryony Rylett for your research.

Continued on page 21...



Avril Glessing



If you won a million pounds, what would you do with the money?

Live more comfortably and I would make sure the kids were o.k.

If you were granted three wishes, what would they be (extra wishes excluded).

1. Wipe away cancer.
2. Peace in the world; take away hate.
3. Not having to work so I could spend more time with my family.

If you had to flee your home at very short notice, due to a fire for example, what three items would you take?

1. Pets
2. Family
3. Passport

What three things delight you?

1. My pets; the dogs
2. My children and husband
3. My home

Pyworthy Rural Art Group

Pyworthy ART



Just a reminder of our Art Exhibition in the Church is on Saturday and Sunday the 18th & 19th of July. This weekend is the Church Patronal Festival, so there will be flower displays and vintage memorabilia. Refreshments will be available.

Exhibitors - please hand your paintings in on Friday 17th at 10.00am and collect them at 4.00pm on Sunday 19th.

The art group will return to Pyworthy Village Hall on the 8th September at 2.30pm. The programme of classes for September will be published in the next edition of your community paper.

Our annual Art Exhibition will be held in our village Church on the 18th & 19th July – see page 31 for details.

For further information contact Janet Grant Tel: 01409 259356

Men's Skittles



Men's Skittles!

Pyworthy has a Men's Skittles Team, which meet on Tuesday evenings. If you would be interested in joining them, please contact:

Andrew on 07531186466 or 01409 253509.

Training will be given!

Make a Donation to the Pyworthy Post, It's Simple!

If you would like to give a donation towards the printing cost of the Pyworthy Post – see details below.

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GARDENING MATTERS from CRINACOTT

By Mike Godfrey, keen gardener



As usual May and June have flashed by it seems in just a matter of weeks. This year we have had reasonable gardening weather, and I hope that most of your crops have got off to a pretty good start. I wish that I could say the same this year, as virtually everything that I have planted or sown has failed. I planted 45 runner bean seeds and 25 green bean seeds directly in the ground and only 3 came up and one of them has subsequently died and the other two are under attack from slugs (see pic). I have recently searched for the seeds and the only thing that I have found were woodlice. It would appear that these creatures are responsible for my disappearing bean seeds or am I missing something more obvious. Then there are the beetroot, parsnips and carrot seeds, both just the normal seed and tape seed, planted by me and several others and again either no germination or disappearing seedlings. I have even gone to the lengths of bringing in two big loads of sterilised compost. I have been gardening pretty successfully for around 60 years, including 20 years at Crinacott. However, the distinct lack of success over the last 3 years is convincing me that my green fingers are definitely turning brown - but why? I am truly mystified, just what is causing it all; I feel that it has got to be a combination of factors, have reasonable crops but nothing like last year. I think that it will take several years for the fruit trees to recover from the gigantic crops that they



Above: framework for no show beans

have reasonable crops but nothing like last year. I think that it will take several years for the fruit trees to recover from the gigantic crops that they produced last year.

On a brighter note the first of my wildlife ponds is starting to attract all sorts of creatures and become a naturalised wildlife area, which has given me the encouragement to consider building some more. I am still struggling with my wildflower plot in the Orchard area, which is quite disappointing. Back in March/April over 200 plug wildflower plants were put out in the Orchard and I even watered them each night during drier weather. Checking on them this week I would say 95% of them have failed to establish or are just missing, it really does seem to be an uphill struggle, but I am determined not to give in – not yet anyway. I have yet again sown more seed in the polytunnel to raise a lot more plug plants for later in the year. These will be mainly yellow rattle, cornflowers and poppies. The other plug plants cost me over £200, doing this way is considerably cheaper and I haven't got too much to lose if

continued on page 24...

GARDENING MATTERS from CRINACOTT
continued from page 23.....

they don't take. I am again growing Begonias as they seem to be the only flower the snails and slugs don't demolish and they make a splendid show of colour throughout the summer and right into late autumn (see pic below).



Above: my Begonias in June, and below: net cloche with pipe hoops – again no show seeds this year



Jobs for this month, if you haven't already done them:-

- ✿ Continue to sow salad crop seeds directly in prepared ground. Try not plant all seeds in one go, sow to provide continuity of supply rather than have the whole crop ready at the same time, so a lot will inevitably go to waste or the compost bin.
- ✿ Continue to sow peas and beans for successional supplies
- ✿ Crops are now mature enough to start picking them. In some cases, this will be done by "thinning out" leaving the rest to grow on to maturity. This could be beetroot, lettuce, parsnips and carrots etc. In the case of carrots, thinning can attract the carrot root fly. This can be prevented by placing a 6 inch (150mm) high barrier around them as the fly is unable to fly that high apparently.
- ✿ Watch out for slug and snails, water on nematodes or alternatively use beer traps or dry bran in a pot on its side, to prevent it getting wet. These can be used in combination as well, to control your slug and snail population.
- ✿ If you are growing brassicas, such as cabbage or Brussel sprouts, be alert to the cabbage whites and its eggs, which quickly turn into ravenous caterpillars. These can decimate the young leaves on these plants within a day. Net them over, if possible, use 20mm blue water pipe and bend short lengths into hoops, to form net cloche. Fix to the ground all round to prevent entry at ground level (see picture opposite)

continued on page 25

GARDENING MATTERS from CRINACOTT
continued from page 24.....

- ✿ If you have a shrub that you would like to replicate somewhere else in the garden, then now is the time to take softwood cuttings. Choose a non-flowering shoot and remove with a clean cut. Strip off the bottom leaves and push the stem into a pot containing free draining compost, water and cover with a plastic bag.
- ✿ Slow soil evaporation, especially around newly planted shrubs by placing a mulch of well-rotted compost or manure all around it.
- ✿ If you need to control the growth of spring flowering shrubs or just simply want to reshape it, now is the time to do it, after it has finished flowering.
- ✿ If your tomatoes have set a truss, then start feeding them with tomorite or similar, to provide nutrition for growing the fruits but also to prevent potassium deficiencies. Don't forget to pinch out the side shoots, as your plants will put all their energy into growing stems and leaves at the expense of growing tomatoes. Plant out outdoor tomatoes.
- ✿ Stake and tie in Cucumbers and other similar plants, pinch out unwanted side shoots to focus the plants energy to where it is needed.
- ✿ Transplant leeks sown earlier. Trim the roots and tops, this will encourage growth. Just make an 1 inch (25mm) diameter hole about 6 inches (150mm) deep, drop in the trimmed leak, fill the hole with water and just leave it. Don't need to backfill it.

- ✿ Plant out previously sown sweetcorn plants in blocks, rather than rows, with the plants about 12 inches (300mm) apart. This should maximise wind pollination.
- ✿ If you left some traditionally mowed areas, during "no mow May", continue to do so. Also lift the mower blades during dry spells on grass you are continuing to mow, to prevent stress and help to prevent them going brown.
- ✿ If you have a pond keep it topped up with rainwater, adding it slowly to avoid disturbing the silt, which could affect amphibians and fish. Add floating plants such as water lilies to encourage dragonflies
- ✿ Make sure that your pond has a gentle gradient or a secure ramp to allow creatures that may accidentally fall in to escape safely.
- ✿ During dry periods please leave out shallow bowls of water, so that creatures such as hedgehogs, mice and shrews can get a drink. Check it regularly.

Enjoy your garden whilst you can and when we have good weather over the next few months.

If anyone needs to contact me, then please contact me on 01409 253401 or 07798 647041 or by e-mail at

mikecrinacott1@gmail.com.



Power 'shut down' at Derril Water Solar Park and other North Devon renewable generators to avert grid overload

- ❖ *Network Operators warn curtailment may continue until September*
- ❖ *Devon CPRE has long been warning of such an eventuality*

Devon CPRE has learnt that National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED) has curtailed all output from Derril Water Solar Park at Pyworthy, near Holsworthy, and other renewables connected to the Alverdiscott Substation because of a fault that threatens to overload the grid. In its first summer of electricity generation, the timing couldn't be worse for Derril Water, a solar farm that Devon CPRE and residents campaigned against.

The Board of the Derril Water Solar Co-op has sent its members an important update, dated 26 May 2026, advising them of "an unexpected electricity grid issue that requires Derril Water Solar Park and other renewable generators in North Devon to shut down...to prevent potential network overloads". The message goes on to say the problem has been triggered by works being carried out at the Transmission Network substation at Alverdiscott, near Barnstaple; the unexpected constraint has been enforced with no warning; and information received so far indicates that the curtailment may remain in place through the summer until early September.

Devon CPRE's Energy spokesman, Dr Phil Bratby, says, "This is exactly the sort of issue you would expect with a distribution network when it's used for purposes for which it was not designed (i.e. connect uncontrollable generators, with no spare capacity). Devon CPRE has been warning of such eventualities. Dare we say, we told you so!"

Devon CPRE Chair Steve Crowther adds, "We have been concerned for some time that the Grid was not up to the job and constantly adding new, large solar farms would lead to a situation similar to that in Spain last April, where the whole Grid collapsed. The government's policy of allowing international investors a free rein in building solar over our countryside is totally irresponsible. One man's obsession does not constitute strategic planning. All further megasolar projects should be halted until a proper strategic energy plan is put in place, which acknowledges the realities of what energy is required where, and what inputs our grid can reliably accept without falling over."



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What's On At HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY July 2026

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Songs and stories for children 0-4 years old. Term time only.
- **Devon Family Hub Drop In Advice Session**, Thursday 2nd - 2pm-4pm.
FREE Family Advice & Guidance to anyone with a child aged 0-19 (up to 25 with SEND). Call 0800 5385458 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm for advice & guidance if you can't make the sessions.
- **Sew Together**, Monday 13th & 27th - 3:30pm-4:30pm. Bring your own hand sewing project (or knitting etc). An informal and supportive group rather than a class or lesson!
- **Gardening Cuppa and Chat**, Wednesday 22nd - 2pm-3pm. A monthly meeting to talk all things gardening. Everyone welcome.
- **Paper planes & stories**, Wednesday 29th - 2:30pm-3:30pm.
Summer Book Quest themed activity for children. Free activity, no need to book.
- **Board Games and Biscuits**, Thursday 30th - 11am-4pm. Free, drop in activity. All ages welcome.
- **Lloyds Bank Community Banking**, every other Monday 2-4.
By appointment only - call 02077143681 to book direct with Lloyds.
- **Self Service Baby Weigh**. Every Thursday - 1pm-4pm.
- **Lego and games** for children. Every Saturday - 10am-12pm



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Pyworthy Poser Quiz For JULY 2026..

The UK & its Islands:

1. Where is the most-westerly golf course in England?
2. Which towns comprise the Cinque Ports?
3. Which is further north, Gateshead or Newcastle-upon-Tyne?
4. Which bridge links NW Wales with Anglesey?
5. Tobermory is situated on which Scottish island?
6. Stornoway is situated on which Scottish island?
7. On which island would you find the River Medina?
8. Which is further west, Camborne or Redruth?
9. What is the name of the beach that connects Bridport & Portland?
10. Which educational town/establishment is situated between Nottingham & Leicester?



The answers will be in the next Pyworthy Post

By The Pyworthy Pilgrim

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Warning to Online Shoppers: Rise in Account Takeovers Targeting Retailers

Report Fraud is urging online shoppers to remain vigilant following a significant increase in criminals gaining unauthorised access to retail accounts to purchase high-value goods. Recent reporting has identified Argos as a notable trend in this activity, with a sharp rise in cases mentioning the retailer. This reflects a broader pattern of criminals targeting well-known, trusted brands. Argos is actively working with authorities and customers to identify suspicious activity and strengthen account security measures.

What's happening?

Criminals are accessing online retail accounts using login details obtained through data breaches. This is often possible because many people reuse the same passwords across multiple websites.

Once access is gained, offenders:

- Place orders for high-value goods
- Use 'click and collect' services to retrieve items in person
- In some cases, use payment details not linked to the legitimate account holder.

This method allows them to avoid delivery checks and collect goods anonymously.

Key figures

- 652 reports mentioning Argos in May 2026

- A 323% increase from April (154 reports)
- 1,175 reports recorded so far in 2026, with May the highest

Argos is contacting potentially affected customers and continues working closely with partners to prevent further incidents.

Official Advice

Detective Chief Inspector Steven Kettle, Head of Crime Services at Report Fraud, said:

"Report Fraud urges anyone with online retail accounts to remain vigilant and be alert to any unusual or suspicious activity. It is essential to take appropriate steps to protect account by following Report Fraud's guidance. If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, please report it."

How to protect yourself

All online shoppers are advised to take the following steps:

- Use unique passwords
Avoid reusing passwords across different accounts.
- Change passwords immediately
If you notice suspicious activity, update your password straight away—and do the same for any accounts using similar details.
- Create strong passwords
Use three random words to form a secure passphrase.

Warning to Online Shoppers: Rise in Account Takeovers Targeting Retailers – continued from page 36

How to protect yourself continued:

- Enable Two-Step Verification (2SV)
Add an extra layer of security to your accounts wherever possible.
- Be cautious with saved payment details
Avoid storing your card details on retail websites unless necessary.

 Reporting Fraud

If you believe you have been a victim of fraud:

-  Report online here:

[UK's Home for Reporting Cyber Crime & Fraud - Report Fraud](#)

 **Call: 0300 123 2040.**

**Banking Hub
OPEN AT:**

1 The Depot, Lansdown Road, Bude.

Monday TSB

Tuesday Nat. West.

Wednesday Barclays

Thursday Barclays

Friday Lloyds



Banking Hub!

ActionFraud

 Report Fraud & Internet Crime 

0300 123 2040



CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about crime

Sunrise, Sunset Times for the coming month:



1st JULY 2026 (UK, Exeter)

 Sunrise time: 05.05am GMT

 Sunset time: 21.30pm GMT

 Length of day: 16 Hrs 24 mins.

30th JULY 2026 (UK, Exeter)

 Sunrise time: 05.39am GMT

 Sunset time: 21.00pm GMT

 Length of day: 15 hrs 21 mins

**Help our Village Hall while you
shop online - sign up today!**
More information at:
easyfundraising.org.uk

 easyfundraising
feel good shopping



**Help us raise
FREE donations**
every time you **shop online**

How to sign up

1. Visit easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Search for Pyworthy Village Hall and support our cause
3. Raise FREE donations for us when shopping



Scan me

4,500 online sites will give us a free donation
when you shop with them - at no extra cost to you!



Over £34 million raised

Trustpilot ★★★★★

1.9 million users

Feeding Wild Birds

**Seasonal advice on how
to feed our local birds,
can be found by visiting
the RSPB website for more
detailed information.
Website: rspb.org.uk.**



Torridge
District Council

Pyworthy Collections



**JULY 2026 - Pyworthy Village,
other villages may have a
different collection schedule.**

Black bag collection days are:

Friday 10th July

Friday 24th July



**Recycling- Every Monday,
Boxes/Bags & Food Caddy**

Weekly collection of 2 x boxes & 2
x bags. Weekly collection of food
waste in caddy.

Garden Waste Collection dates:

Monday 6th July

Monday 20th July.

**For more information go
to: www.torridge.gov.uk**

Or phone:

01237 428700



Heard of Fake News – Now it's Deep Fake

By Brian Meadows of Nofix-Nofee

We can no longer trust what we hear or see on our Computers, Tablets or phones. Why? Deep fake activity has become the norm – AI has improved in such leaps and bounds over the past 2 years nothing on the internet should be trusted. It's a sad statement but very, very true!

Images created, voices cloned and novels written, society as a whole is facing serious dilemmas as it will soon be impossible to tell what is factual and what is false.

Thankfully there are still a few ways to spot a fake, but it's difficult, check the following;

- Who is sharing it? Is it a strange account or senders address?
- What is their purpose? Are they asking for likes or cash?
- Check the "Head Tilt": Some AI videos still show distortions.

And if a "deepfake" person is calling you, ask for them to wave their hand in front of their face – it could break the filter.

To prove a point, I created a Christmas song called Little Bells, using only AI tools, which took less than an hour to produce and it is all fake. This can be seen and heard by linking to :



<https://youtu.be/HOhzUVcF75A>

Don't think for one second only Techy Nerds can produce AI fakes. Anyone with a computer and an internet link can do it, and it doesn't take long to learn. Much of it is also free to try with a few credits thrown in just for signing up and where previously expensive machinery or software had to be used, that is no longer the case everything you would want to change or create imagery is done in minutes by selecting the correct action or style – it's never been easier! It's now almost a "CHEATS CHARTER" were the "Con-man or Con-woman" has a new range of tools in the scammer's arsenal. Passports, driving licences and ID cards can all be reproduced quickly, easily and with high degree of accuracy and you or anyone else would not know the difference.

The government should by now have legislation in place to control this type of fakery, but as ever they will think about it for so long, without action, that every politician could be cloned and find themselves voting for changes in legislation without them knowing it!

Impossible you might say, anything is possible with computerisation these days!

But regulation is severely lacking, which means more sophisticated scams will heading our way!

Nofix-Nofee Computer Repair Service. (nofix-nofee.com)

See this month's Fraud report on page 36.





Bude Farmers & Craft Market

We be held every Friday
10am until 3pm, until
September.

The Green at Lower Wharf,
right alongside the canal and
in front of the artisan
workshops, the market offers a
fantastic setting.

<https://budefarmersandcraftmarket.co.uk/>

Holsworthy Food Bank

You can donate tinned food,
packets or boxes of food.
Unfortunately, fresh produce
cannot be accepted.

**Donations can be left in the box
at the back of St. Swithun's
Church, Pyworthy, which is open
every day.** Thank you.



J. Mansell 07896 945889

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Limewash & Lime Plastering**

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Stoves & Garden Landscaping**

Jamescancott@gmail.com

Take part this summer

in the Scarecrow Trail



Pyworthy Village Hall are organising a Parish Scarecrow Trail to run from 22nd August until 5th September 2026.

We would love to see scarecrows taking residence in Pyworthy, Derril and Derriton.

Please email angelaskinner27@hotmail.co.uk by 31st July with your name and address if you would like to take part, so that a route can be planned through the Parish.

Alternatively, drop a note or the form below into Pennikwik, Derriton Road, Pyworthy with your details.

N.B. Your name will remain confidential and not publicised.

**The Village Show will
be held on Saturday
the 5th September.**



Village Show programmes will go on sale on the 1st July!

Scarecrow Entry Form

Drop into Pennikwik,
Derriton Road, Pyworthy.

Closing date – 31st July 2026.

I/we would like to enter to Scarecrow Trail this summer.

Please print name:

.....

Address:

.....

.....

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5.30pm & 7.00pm

Holsworthy

Holsworthy Memorial Hall
Tuesdays
5.30pm & 7.00pm
Thursdays
9.00am & 10.30am

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WORLD
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The next edition
of Pyworthy Post
goes off to print

on:

**Sunday 26th July
at 9am.**

Please email your
news as early as
possible.

Thank you.

View Pyworthy
Post online in
colour. Search:

[http://www.bit.ly
/post/py](http://www.bit.ly/post/py)

No Dog Fouling



Bag it - Bin it

More Useful Contact numbers:

 Holsworthy Food Bank: 
Tel: 01271 377077.

Holsworthy Community Fridge:
email:

mtrudgill@dmatschools.org.uk

Samaritans: Tel: 116 123

Age UK: Tel: 0800 055 6112



THINK — DO YOU KNOW THE
CALLER IS WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE?



The theme is the seaside!

Children's Craft & Sensory Session



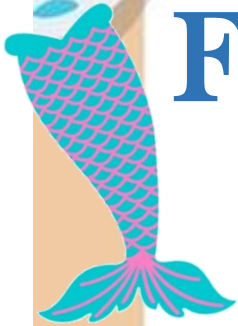
Making paper chain Octopus

Free Craft & Sensory play session

with Amanda on
Saturday the 4th July,
2pm until 4pm, in
Pyworthy Village Hall.
Refreshments Available

(for small fee)

Lots of
exciting craft
activities



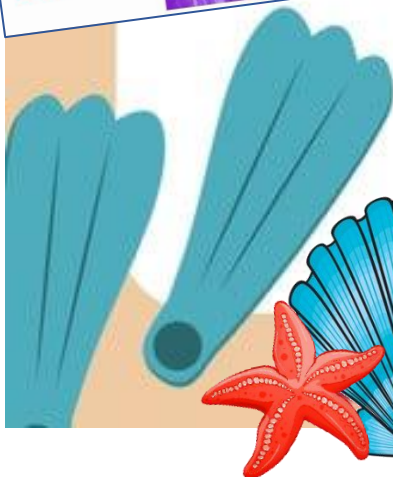
Making Play-Doh
mermaid tails!



Puffy
Paint
Ice Cream
PAINTING

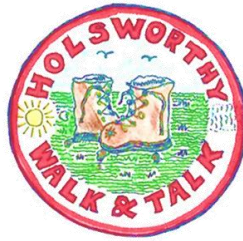


Making Pool
Noodle boats!



Holsworthy Walk & Talk Group

By Gill Aston



Why not scan
our QR code?
This will take you
to our website.



Even though the weather had been a little inclement last month we had some lovely walks with lots of wildflowers to try to identify. During our walk at Dunsdon Nature reserve we thought we spotted a common perennial, Ragged Robin, enjoying the damp meadows and marshes of the Culm grassland. A Common Spotted Orchid was also thriving near the sundial at Roadford Lake.

Although we have walked many times at Sheepwash and enjoyed the hospitality of The Half Moon Inn, this time we were taken on a slight detour around the village to visit St Lawrence Church and the Village Hall. The present St Lawrence church is the third church to have been built on this site. The first church dated back to the 14th century but collapsed, the second church was destroyed by a fire in 1743. The current church was built in 1880 at the cost of £1600 and funded by the then Lord Clinton. The pinnacled tower was completed in 1889 at a cost of £300. Amongst many beautiful features are several stained-glass windows and a solid oak lectern in the shape of an eagle.

Since the Middle Ages, Sheepwash had been an important market town. Livestock were driven in from many miles around which were then auctioned from The Half Moon Inn. The fire in 1743 not only destroyed the Church but also much of the village which meant that Holsworthy and Hatherleigh then became centres for the markets.



Above: Level 2 walk on Cycle Path, Holsworthy
Below: Group photo from Roadford Lake by the Sundial



We were very pleased that Clive was able to join us on our Rydon Lane walk, piloting his Buggy from our meeting place outside Holsworthy Museum and out along the cycle track. Clive attended the very first Holsworthy Walk and Talk walk 21 years ago and, despite recent health problems, is still a valuable member of our Group.

continued on page 45..

Holsworthy Walk & Talk group report continued from page 44....

We often mention the many health benefits of walking, not just the physical but also psychological. Even when our mobility begins to reduce, members are still able to feel included and valued. Our walks also give us the opportunity to visit our locality and learn more of the local history and hidden gems which are all too easy to miss as we go about our daily lives.

If you would like to join us on any of our walks to visit local places, meet new people and enjoy the benefits of walking our current programme of walks is available. Walks start at 10.30 and are **FREE**. Membership forms are available from our Volunteer Walk Leaders prior to the start of the walk. Our website has lots of up-to-date information, together with our current programme of walks, with the details below.

Our JULY Programme of walks:

WALKING



Level 2 & 3 walks are every Friday at 10.30am.

All these walks aim to be completed in about 90 minutes.

JULY Walks: Walk starting points as indicated below:

Friday 3rd July – Level 2: Bude/Efford Down, starting at Bude TIC car park. Leaders: Mike & Kim. EX23 8LE.

Level 3: Bratton Clovelly, starting at the Parish Hall car park. Leaders: Sue & Jan. EX20 4 JT.

Friday 10th July – Level 2:

Hollacombe/Halifax Way, starting at the War Memorial Nr Anvil Corner. Leaders: Cheryl & Mike. EX22 6NR.

Email address: pyworthy@post.com Telephone number: 01409 478294 Page 45

Friday 10th July – Level 3: Level 3:

Buckland Filleigh, starting at Village Hall car park. Leaders: Gill & Jacqui. EX21 5HZ.

At the time of printing no more information was available, but the new walks programme should be uploaded onto the website soon.

Holsworthy Walk & Talk Group contact details:

Our website has lots of up-to-date information, together with our current programme of walks, details below:

holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com
<http://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>

Phone numbers:

Gillian Aston 07854677784 or
Mike Jackson 01409 261196 or
Paul Davies 07731 626594.

PYWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL

Here are the contact telephone numbers for our Parish Councillors:

Ros Skinner: Chair

01409 254159 or 07800667842

Andrew Parrish: Vice Chair
01409 254303

Nick Lock: 01288 381529
or 07989595372

Rob Moores: 01409 254192

Angela Skinner: 07794 344117

Martin Brennan: 01409 691096

Andrew Beaven: 01409 253509 (after 7pm).

For general enquires phone:
Simon Davies, Clerk to the council
on: 07989747416.

Email address:

pyworthy@yahoo.co.uk

JULY ANNIVERSARIES:

20th Anniversary, 15 July 2006 –

Twitter (now X), the online micro-blogging service, was launched.

30th Anniversary, 8 July 1996 - British scientists Bob Sinden and Julian Crampton revealed their plan to use genetically engineered mosquitoes as 'flying syringes' that would immunise their victims against diseases such as malaria by biting them. A worldwide patent was granted in 2002.

50th Anniversary, 20 July 1976 –

NASA's *Viking 1* lander successfully landed on Mars and sent back the first photo taken from the surface of Mars.

75th Anniversary, 26 July 1951 – The world première of the Walt Disney film *Alice in Wonderland*, in London, UK. Released USA: 28th July.

80th Anniversary, 5 July 1946 – The first bikini two-piece swimsuit was unveiled at a fashion show in Paris, France. It was created by French designer Louis Réard. It was named after the U.S. atomic bomb test that took place at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific Ocean earlier that week (1st July).

125th Anniversary, 3rd July 1901 -

Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch carried out their last train robbery in the USA. They robbed a Great Northern Railway train near Wagner, Montana and stole more than \$60,000 (equivalent to nearly \$2 million today). Several members of the gang were captured or killed shortly afterwards. Cassidy and Harry Longabough (the Sundance Kid) fled to Argentina.

Ant The Lawn Ranger

For grass cutting & garden maintenance call:

Antony Jarvis

Mobile: 07990016467

Email:

antony2191@googlemail.com

Update from our local hedgehog family



June weather? Naturally we only see the month in the dark, but we are all well. Bumped into a good friend of ours the other late evening, Tom the Toad. We get on well together hunting down the nasties in your gardens. The moon has been replaced by several lights burning late. Apparently, that is something to do with a human activity called World Cup Football! That helps us to spot the invading slug(s), but please remember the shallow dish of fresh water. It's thirsty work on slug patrols!

Harry & Henrietta.

Save your stamps - see page 51.

John Sanders Park Trust

Lottery 2026

Lottery tickets for the Park Trust lottery 2026 are now on sale. If you would like to buy a lottery number, please **contact Jane Oliver on 07500 834620** and make a BACS payment of £10 to the Park Trust bank account adding your name as the reference. Our trustees will also be selling numbers as usual. The first draw will take place soon. There are ten draws throughout the year each with prizes of £30, £20 and £10, so lots of chances to win.

All profits go towards the upkeep and costs of Pyworthy Park.

Draw results of the first 3 draws this year:

Draw 1: £30 – Paul Giles, £20 – Merrel Locke, £10 – John Weighel

Draw 2: £30 – Richard Thompson, £20 – Jo Jones, £10 – James Mansell

Draw 3: - £30 – Jo Jones, £20 – Sonia Staines, £10 – Rita Hart

HOW TO BUY A £10 LOTTERY TICKET:

BACS Information:

If you wish to buy a draw ticket and wish to pay by BACS please do so, our Bank account details are below:

Barclays Bank Trustees Sanders Trust Pyworthy Playing Fields
Sort Code 20-04-59 Account number 10770388

St. Swithin's Day 15th July...

St. Swithin's Day is named after the ninth century Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. This was the capital of Wessex at that time – the bishop held the post from 852-862.

He was known for his charitable endeavours, becoming a saint about 100 years after he died.

The legend goes that he requested that after he died, he should be buried in the churchyard of Winchester Cathedral, saying he wanted to be 'where the sweet rain of heaven may fall upon my grave'.

Legend also has it that his tomb was moved inside on July 15th 971 – and shortly after that happened, a huge storm hit, followed by weeks of rain.

People took that as a sign from beyond the grave that St. Swithin was angry at being moved indoors – giving rise to the theory that the weather on July 15th would be a sign of what the weather would be like for the next 40 days.



Creative Craft Club

The afternoon craft club takes place in Pyworthy Village Hall on the

2nd & 4th Thursday of each month, at 2.30pm until 4.30pm.

A donation of just £2 towards the hall is all it costs!

Come along and join us, just bring your own craft project to do, & see what others are doing. Plenty of help available, if you have a problem with your craft project.

**Phone Marie on:
01409 254924**

ARTHUR W. BRYANT FUNERAL SERVICE

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01288 352282

HOLSWORTHY
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LAUNCESTON
01566 232426

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CARING@AWBRYANT.CO.UK



**Coming to the Village Hall on
WEDNESDAY 15th JULY!**

REMINDER - Potters Fish 'n' Things

By popular request, Potters have agreed to set up shop in the Village Hall Car Park, 4.30pm-7.00pm every 3rd WEDNESDAY of each month, for the foreseeable future.

To pre order, head to their website:

www.pottersfishnthings.co.uk

OR alternately just turn up on the night.



Other
food
available

Useful Local Contacts Your Local Business & Services Directory

**Advertise in the Contacts list
for just £18 per year or free
with a full or half page of advertising!**

Catering, Food & Drink SuppliesHarold Trading Ltd, 01288 381337
Chimney Sweep..... Humphrey Pullar 01409 240138/07984406290
Coarse FishingYeomadon Coarse Fishing 01409 253378
Computer Repairs Nofix – Nofee Repair Service, Brian 07534804101
Decorating & Property Maintenance Julian Lapham 07765626069
Driving Tuition Evelyn Sharman 01409 259848/07885352082
Double Glazing M.A.G. Double Glazing Repairs 07969 234161
Electrical Contractors..... Algo Electrical Contractors01409 254595
Electrical Contractor Mike Daniel 01288 381342/07977 596772
Estate Agents Kivells 01409 253888
Fruit, Veg, Flowers & more Trigon Farm, Derriton – Al, 07988484069
Funeral Directors Arthur W. Bryant Funeral Service 01409 253000
Funeral ServicesDenise Wellington Funeral Services 01288 359277
Foot Care Kate Lord: 07557379099 Email: katescompletefeet1@gmail.com
General Builder James Mansell - General Builder 07896945889
Grass cutting & garden maintenance Antony Jarvis, 07990016467
Gun Club (Airgun) West Devon Airgun Club, Nigel Palmer: 07488339351
Heating Engineer Greg 01409 478198
British Hedgehog Preservation Society.....Bob Gelder, 01409-253791
Herbalist Diana Lee, Registered Medical Herbalist 01409 254450
Holsworthy Private Dental Care 01409 255525
Holsworthy Golf Club.....01409 253177
Holsworthy Library 01409 253514
Holsworthy Medical Centre 01409 253692 **District nurses** 01409 255134
Holsworthy Post office & Sorting Office 01409 253608/01409 253236
Holsworthy Rural Community Transport team ... 01409 259001
Holsworthy Walk & Talk Group ...Gill Aston 07854677784
John Sanders Park Trust Jane Oliver on 07500 834620
Line Dancing Group Brenda Martin 01409 253015
MOT & Garage Services ...Pyworthy MOT Ltd, Simon Martin 01409 254275
National Grid (report a problem line) National Grid is on 0800 032 0311
Oil Fired boilers & tanks/service & installations Greg 01409 478198
Police Non-urgent phone calls 101/email devon-cornwall.police.uk
Pyworthy Village Hall Bookings: Marie Heard 01409 254924
Pyworthy PostEmail Marion: pyworthy@post.com
Organic Farm, Trigon Farm selling fruit & veg etc phone Al on 07988484069
Renewable Energy/replacement windows Renew SW Ltd, 01409 253533
Round Baling Stan Hopper 01409 253412
Stove SupplierCBL Stoves, call Carl on 01288381852 www.cblstoves.co.uk
Therapeutic Treatments CN Holistics 01288 381201
Torridge District Council www.torridge.gov.uk 01237 428700

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Repairs
from only
£25



Tel: 01288 381061

Mobile: 07534 804101

Email: mail@nofix-nofee.net

Tower Computer Systems for OAPs in Need!

I have a small quantity of refurbished tower computers with Windows 11 installed. I will gift these to OAP's experiencing financial difficulties free of charge (this offer does not include keyboard, mouse or monitors).

The conditions are primarily that they should be sponsored, and if delivering, installing and transferring data a small charge will be made to cover basic costs.

Phone Brian Meadows:

Tel: 01288 381061.

Save Your Used Stamps for the Hedgehogs!



British Hedgehog Preservation Society

Macmillan no longer sells used stamps, but Bob has found another very worthwhile charity, who can make use of our stamps.

Please Save your used Postage Stamps!

Used National & International stamps can be recycled.

They will be used to generate income for the

British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

Simply pop stamps into an envelope

and drop off at:

**9 Shortlands, Pyworthy or
Sunnymead, Pyworthy.**

Thank you!



EVELYN SHARMAN

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Telephone: 01409 259848

Mobile: 07885 352 082

Email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

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- Wood & Ceramic beams & surrounds
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Showroom Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm
Saturday 9am until 2pm

Call us now for a FREE no
obligation quote on:
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Website: www.cblstoves.co.uk
Email: carl@cblstoves.co.uk

PYWORTHY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The May Parish Council meeting was put back by 2 weeks until 4th June as it turned out so many Councillors were away that the meeting would have been inquorate. As the May meeting is the AGM and Annual Parish Meeting, this would have been unfortunate.

Cllr. Ros Skinner was once again elected as Chairman for the 2026/7 period. The AGM was then paused for the Annual Parish Meeting, which as usual only lasted 1 minute (this is the same in most parishes). The AGM then recommenced with the standard business. The Chairman read out a report on activities of the last municipal year and thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their support during the year. Accounts for 2026/7 and then for the period April to June were agreed. The Annual Audit Documents were reviewed and the meeting agreed that they could be signed for submission. Copies of these can be found on the website for those interested.

A planning application for an extension to the property at Old Smithy in Pyworthy village was discussed and Councillors agreed to support it. A planning appeal for refusal of planning permission at Nectar Haze was discussed and, as Councillors had supported the original application, it was agreed to support the appeal.

On a more serious note, it was noted that some dog walkers are letting dogs loose in fields with animals, leading to fears of animal worrying. The path from Blackpool to Carn Brae was a case in point. The Clerk was asked to reiterate to residents that dogs **MUST** be kept on leads where farm animals are present. Farmers have the right to shoot dogs that are running loose and worrying animals.

Two grants from the Solar Fund were discussed. It was agreed to pay £5,000 towards repairs to the village hall roof and to pay up to £2,860 (inc VAT) towards a ride on mower for the West Devon Air Gun Club.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16 July. Simon Davies, Clerk to the Council

Pyworthy Village Hall

SPRING CLEANING



*Your hard work
has made all the
difference!*

On behalf of Brenda, I'd like to thank all those people who worked as an enthusiastic team, to thoroughly clean and freshen up our Village Hall; for everybody to enjoy. Also, a big thank you to Lisa who baked a delicious cake, which was consumed very quickly. Great team effort!

**JULY
2026**



Nature Notes

By Bryony Rylett

This month the annual St. Peter's Fair is due to take place in Holsworthy. The weeklong celebrations, starting on July 4th, follows the feast of St. John The Baptist, on June 24th.

On the eve of John The Baptist's Feast, a night said to be infused with magic and spirits, there was an opportunity to become invisible for those able to obtain and conceal a fern seed. Did anyone try and succeed?

Folklore records that fern seeds, microscopic spores and therefore virtually impossible to procure, were thought to ripen and fall at midnight on the Saint's Eve and were best caught on a pewter plate or in a fine cloth.

As well the seed being virtually impossible to obtain, ferns are guarded by evil spirits and fairies, so it is understandable if no one achieved invisibility.

In Slavic and Baltic countries ferns are associated with attaining the unattainable and folklore from the region states that those in possession of the ephemeral fern flower would be rewarded with wealth, the ability to understand animals and to open any

lock.

However, obtaining such a flower is a futile pursuit as ferns do not flower.

Ferns flourish up to 3000 metres above sea level. They vary in habit from ground cover species, through climbing varieties, to towering, arborescent types such as tree ferns. Pyworthy is home to a variety of ferns including **Male Fern** (*Dryopteris filix-mas*), **Lady Fern** (*Athyrium filix-femina*), **Common polypody** (*Polypodium vulgare*), **Hard Fern** (*Blechnum spicant* - meaning spiky), **Bracken** (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and **Hart's Tongue Ferns** (*Asplenium scolopendrium*).



Above: A Hart's Tongue Fern near Derril



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Ferns are known to clean soil of toxins such as arsenic and the Boston Fern can purify the air removing chemicals such as formaldehyde and toluene, a solvent used in paints, inks and as a fuel additive.

This ability to deal with toxic substances may explain how the ancestors of today's plants survived cataclysmic events such as the impact and aftermath of the asteroid strike thought to have caused the demise of dinosaurs.

A mania for collecting and cultivating ferns swept through Britain between 1840 and 1890 coinciding with the Age Of Empire.

Writer Charles Kingsley, author of *The Water Babies*, in his 1855 book 'Glaucus'; or 'Wonders of the Shore', coined the phrase **Pteridomania** to describe the craze.

The word Pteridomania is derived from Pterido, Latin for fern, and mania used to describe someone with an intense interest in a subject or hobby. Fern mania also coincided with the expansion of the rail network allowing professional and keen, amateur botanists to travel to previously less accessible western and northern parts of the U.K. where native ferns proliferated in the wet and wild countryside.

Some collectors died trying to reach rare specimens growing on cliff faces. Concerned with the impact collecting was having on fern numbers Nona Bellairs, wrote, in her botanical guidebook *Hardy Ferns* (1865): "We must have 'Fern laws' and 'preserve them like game'".



Above: A Lady Fern thriving in a roadside hedge, Yeomadon Cross

Fern collecting was considered a democratic pursuit. Naturalist Peter D. A. Boyd said: "...even the farm labourer or miner could have a collection of British ferns which he had collected in the wild."

Those with money and means funded plant-collecting foreign expeditions to satisfy their desire to be the first to own and display rare and unusual specimens.

Tree ferns, *Dicksonia antarctica*, growing up to four metres, first arrived in Falmouth in the late 1860s. The fibrous trunks were used as ships' ballast.

Ferns were also acquired for newly fashionable stumperies, the first of which appeared at Biddulph Grange in Staffordshire in 1856.

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Stumperies consist of upturned tree stumps arranged to provide a habitat and suitable background to showcase fern collections.

The largest stumpery in the U.K. is in Highgrove Garden, Gloucestershire, private home of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Local examples include those at Trebah Garden, Falmouth and RHS Rosemoor, Great Torrington.



Above: A Deer Fern, also known as a Hard Fern, growing near Blackpool

Those without gardens could still display their fern collections thanks to the invention of the Wardian Case, a forerunner of the terrarium. This mini, indoor greenhouse was developed by Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward in 1829 to protect his fern collection from London's polluted air. Ward believed

plants could improve urban households by "admitting far more light into the dwellings, continually purifying the atmosphere, and furnishing food to the mind as well as the body" ; he also believed they benefitted people's mental health.

Plant expert John Mollison, in his 1877 book *The New Practical Window Gardener*, recommended glass displays as a health benefit for the poor. He petitioned for the repeal of steep taxes on glass.

The Glass Excise Act was repealed in 1845, resulting in cheaper glass manufacturing and enabling the boom in greenhouse construction including the famous Palm House (1848) and Temperate House (1863) in Kew Gardens.

During the Victorian period Pteridomania was considered one of the few intellectual pursuits suitable for the 'weaker sex' who were, in some cases, liberated by the craze.

Charles Kingsley in *Glaucus* wrote: "Your daughters, perhaps have been seized with the prevailing 'Pteridomania' ...you cannot deny that they find enjoyment in it and are more active, more cheerful, more self-forgetful over it, than they would have been over novels & gossip, crochet and Berlin Wool."

Fern searching parties, of both men and women, were considered morally sound; so much so that the normal rules, requiring women to be chaperoned, were relaxed.

As a result, these 'scholarly' fern hunting parties provided dating opportunities.

Hunters and collectors would have been aware **continued on page 57..**

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that ferns in floriography, the word coined in the Victorian era for the language of flowers, represented humility, secret fascination and mystery. It also represented eternal witness.

The crozier or fiddlehead of curling fronds symbolised strength and endurance.

This symbolism was used by writers and poets of the period.

In Chapter 28 - 'The Hollow Amid the Ferns' - of his novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* Thomas Hardy has Bathsheba Everdene waiting for the womanising Sergeant Troy in a fern hollow. He used the ferns as a metaphor for Bathsheba's emotions. In his 1844 novel 'The Chimes' Charles Dickens writes of a party of aristocrats visiting the Dorset cottage of a peasant named Will Fern. Their sketches gloss over the reality of rural poverty.

By naming his peasant character Fern, Dickens was highlighting the realities and hardship of rural life by alluding to the tough nature of ferns. Writer and director Jane Campion used ferns, in *The Piano* (1993), to convey the intense emotions and isolation of the characters. It was filmed in the native rainforest of the Waitakere Range in New Zealand. The cartoonists for the film *Fern Gully - The Last Rainforest* (1992) spent time in the Australian rainforest to improve their animation.

Ferns also feature prominently in 1993's *Jurassic Park*, set on fictional Isla Nublar but filmed on the lush Hawaiian islands of Kauai and Oahu.

Ferns became ubiquitous in the decorative arts of the Victorian era appearing on fabrics, wallpaper, ceramics and gravestones; they even decorate Custard Cream biscuits.

The fern design was chosen intentionally as a reference to the Victorian passion for ferns, as a nod to nostalgia for the natural world, from which people were feeling increasingly detached due to the Industrial Revolution, to show off modern manufacturing processes and as a clever marketing tool since the biscuit design aligned to positive associations of ferns.

Fern motifs have enjoyed a recent resurgence in popularity with home furnishing companies selling ceramics (Waitrose stoneware mugs) placemats, prints and bedding with fern designs perhaps as a response to the increasing alarm people feel about nature depletion.





The paper will go to print on:
Sunday 26th July! Please make
sure your input is received
before this date, thanks.

Diary dates this month:

(Dates & events were correct at the time of printing)

Holsworthy Walk & Talk group enjoy a walk every Friday, see their programme on pages 44 & 45. Also, members take a short walk in Stanhope Park on Mondays.

Monday 29th June – Sunday 12th July – Wimbledon Tennis Tournament.

Wednesday 1st July – Canada Day.

Friday 3rd July - Village Hall Social Evening with 'Play Your Cards Right game'.

Friday 3rd July – Sunday 5th July - British Grand Prix 3rd – 5th.

Saturday 4th July – Children's Craft Session in the Village Hall, 2pm – 4pm,

Saturday 4th July – Community Wellbeing, showcasing groups, activities & services. 10am – 1pm in Holsworthy Leisure Centre.

Saturday 4th July until Sunday 12th July – St. Peter's Fair, Holsworthy.

Sunday 5th July - An afternoon with ALL@C UKULELE BAND in the Village Hall.

Saturday 11th July – Trigon Farm Pizza Evening.

Monday 13th July – Evelyn's Walks group will be setting off from the Village Hall car park in Chilsworthy at 10am.

Tuesday 14th July - Emmeline Pankhurst Day/ Bastille Day in France.

Wednesday 15th July – St. Swithin's Day (will it rain today?) Potter's Fish 'n' Things in Village Hall car park from 4.30pm.

Thursday 16th July – Holsworthy History Society, there will be a talk by Simon Dell on 'Sermons in Stone' at 7pm in the Manor Suite of the Holsworthy Memorial Hall.

Thursday 16th July – Pyworthy Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Friday 17th July - Village Hall Social Evening.

Saturday & Sunday 18th & 19th July - St Swithun's Church Patronal Festival.

Saturday 18th July – Hartland Book Fair, at Hartland Pavilion, see page 59.

Saturday 25th July – Mid Devon Show at Tiverton.

Saturday 25th July – Trigon Farm Pizza Evening.

Wednesday 30th July – Village Hall meeting, starting at

Friday 31st July - Village Hall Social Evening

Forthcoming Events in 2026:

Thursday 6th August – North Devon Show at Umberleigh.

Thursday 13th August – Okehampton Show

Thursday 27th August – Holsworthy & Stratton Show

Saturday 24th October – Children's Halloween Craft Session in the Village Hall.

Saturday 31st October – Halloween Line Dance Party in the Village Hall.

Saturday 21st November – Children's Christmas Craft Session in the Village Hall.

Saturday 5th December - NOT THE COWBOYS, will be entertaining in the Hall.



Pyworthy Country Show – was held in mid-June and enjoyed by those who attended. The Dog Show and Tractor Run went off smoothly. All funds raised over the weekend will be going to the Parkinson's Devon charity. The organisers would like to thank everybody who made the show possible. A bigger and better show will be held next year.

Some lovely photos taken at the show are featured below, our thanks go to
Dr Reg Godwin at Wild Stage Photography.



Photos by Dr Reg Godwin
at Wild Stage Photography

Hartland Book Fair

A celebration of reading and writing.

Come and meet authors from the south west at Hartland Pavilion, Saturday 18th July 10am to 2pm.

Free admission. Coffee, tea, cakes, raffle and book signings.

**Further details:- Keith - 07552 510633
or Adrian - 07903 312150**



All profits in aid of Hartland Recreation Ground

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